

Non face-to-face repeat prescriptions - prescriber fees

Introduction

Prescribers are expected to closely monitor what they prescribe to ensure safe and appropriate use of medicines. For this reason, completing a prescription is considered a clinical activity. To recognise this, ACC will contribute to the cost of a prescriber fee for writing a non face-to-face repeat prescription.

This policy applies from 1 March 2016.

Rules

We're able to contribute to the cost of the prescriber's fee for a non face-to-face repeat prescription if the request meets all of the following conditions:

- the prescriber is a registered health professional with prescribing rights who is practising within their scope of practice under the [Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003](#), eg medical doctor, nurse practitioner, pharmacist prescriber, optometrist
- the client received the first prescription at a face-to-face consultation with the same registered health professional and this is the only non face-to-face repeat prescription the client has received since that consultation (see example below)
- the prescribed medicine is needed to treat an injury covered by ACC
- the prescribed medicine is not a controlled drug.

Example:

A client has a face-to-face consultation with their doctor and receives a prescription. Before the prescription runs out, the client rings the same doctor to ask for a repeat prescription. The doctor agrees to write a repeat prescription without a consultation and charges a prescribing fee.

- *The client asks us to contribute to the doctor's prescribing fee*
- *We agree to contribute because this is the first non face-to-face repeat prescription and the request meets all other criteria.*

Before the repeat prescription runs out, the client rings their doctor and asks for a further repeat prescription. The doctor agrees to write a second repeat prescription without a face-to-face consultation and charges another prescribing fee.

- *The client asks us to contribute to the doctor's second prescribing fee*
- *We decline to contribute as this is the second non face-to-face repeat since the original face to face consultation.*

If the client has a new face-to-face consultation where medicine is prescribed, and they subsequently receive a non face-to-face repeat prescription from the same doctor, we would consider contributing to the prescribing fee if requested.

What we'll pay

If approved, we'll contribute up to \$15 (GST inclusive) towards the prescriber's fee.

We will not contribute to any additional administration charges that might be passed on to the client, eg fax fees, urgent care fees etc.

Eligibility

To be eligible for reimbursement the client must provide ACC with both:

- their receipt for payment of the prescriber's fee
- a completed request form, eg ACC001 Request for assistance form or ACC249 Request for reimbursement of pharmaceutical costs form.